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PRESS RELEASE

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Frederick E. Morton Indicted on Second Homicide from 1990's

Washington, D.C. - United States Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr., announced today that a D.C. Superior Court Grand Jury has returned a twelve count indictment charging Frederick E. Morton, age 58, formerly of 809 R Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., with a second homicide from twenty years ago, that of Charles Caldwell Haupt, age 67.

Previously, Mr. Morton had been arrested, charged and indicted with the January 21, 1997 murder of 25 year old Sharon Moskowitz, who was strangled with her own scarf when she interrupted a burglary in progress at her home, located at 1971 Biltmore Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. Video surveillance tape which showed an individual wearing a distinctive PITT sweatshirt, who was using credit cards stolen from the Moskowitz residence in the hours following her murder, was aired repeatedly on the news with hopes that someone from the general public might be able to identify the suspect. When that hope failed, the case went cold for over a decade. In the fall of 2009, using video taped surveillance, which had been enhanced by the United States Secret Service, detectives from the Cold Case section of the Metropolitan Police Department, with the assistance of a hotline tipster, were able to finally identify the suspect using the stolen credit cards as Frederick E. Morton, resulting in his arrest.

During the course of the Sharon Moskowitz murder investigation, the same detectives discovered information that Frederick E. Morton was also a suspect in the March 26, 1990 murder of sixty-seven year old Charles Caldwell Haupt, who was killed with a knife from his own kitchen, when he interrupted a burglary in progress at his residence, located at 1653 35th Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C. Frederick E. Morton's driver's license was found on the scene of that crime. The Grand Jury has now indicted Mr. Morton on twelve counts encompassing both offenses, including charges of Robbery, Burglary, Kidnaping, and Murder. Both cases are currently pending before the Honorable Lynn Leibovitz of D.C. Superior Court.

In announcing today's indictment, U.S. Attorney Machen wished to commend Detectives Anthony Brigidini and Kenneth "Todd" Williams of the Metropolitan Police Department, and Intelligence Specialist Larry Grasso, of the United States Attorney's Office, who investigated and indicted the case with Assistant United States Attorney Amanda Haines .

An Indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of criminal laws and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.